[English]

Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act

4952. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to amend the Multi-State Cooperative Act;

(b) if so, whether the Government have appointed an Expert Committee in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the main points proposed by the Committee for incorporation in the amendment; and

(e) the time by which the amendment is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission appointed a Committee in the year 1990 under the chairmanship of Ch. Brahm Perkash to recommend a Model Cooperatives Act. The Committee had submitted its report in 1991 recommending, inter-alia, a Model Cooperatives Act. The Government has accepted the recommendation of the Committee in principle. It has been decided to replace the existing Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 by a new legislation on the lines of the recommendations of the "Model Cooperative Act" Committee Report. The basic object of the proposed legislation is to provide autonomy to Cooperative Institutions and to enable them to function as democratically and professionally managed institutions. It has been decided to set up a Committee to advise the Central Government on the policy to be adopted to ensure the autonomous working of the Cooperatives, structural reforms relating to the Cooperative Sector in the context of changing economic environment and the provision of appropriate and adequate policy support to the Cooperative Movement in the country. This Committee has been constituted very recently and question of submission of any report by the Committee does not arise.

(e) The proposed legislation will be introduced after the completion of the procedural formalities.

Forest Land to Private Sector

4953. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to allot forest land to the private sector in U.P. particularly in Agra and Firozabad districts for promoting afforestation programmes and setting up of the zoological garden with the view of decreasing pollution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Foodgrain Production

4954. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States have produced much less foodgrains during 1995-96 in comparison to their requirements;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for the low production; and

(d) the per hectare production of foodgrains, cash crops and oilseeds, Crop-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) State-wise estimates of requirement of foodgrains are not prepared. However, the production of foodgrains—Statewise during 1995-96 (Likely) a statement is enclosed.